

DUG UP A POT OF CENTURY OLD MONEY.

Charlie Kent Was at Work on His Father's Farm, Near Spring Valley, N. J.

Unearthed a Jug-Shaped Iron Vessel with Forty-five Copper and Silver Pieces in It.

WERE DATED FROM 1734 TO 1817.

May Be Worth Something to Collectors. All the Neighbors Excited and Young Kent Said He Would Spend the Summer with a Spade.

Charles Westervelt Kent found a pot of money last Friday afternoon, and now all the people in Bergen County, N. J., are talking about it. He is sixteen years old, and lives with his father, who divides his time between doing carpenter work for the Erie Railroad and running his Jersey farm. The farm is situated on the brow of the big hill just back of Spring Valley, Bergen County.

The Kents have lived on the farm ever since Charles was a baby, and during all that time Farmer Kent was given to worrying over the groups of rocks in the centre of his meadows. A week or two ago he decided to remove the stones by blasting. When Charles heard of this he volunteered to do the blasting. He drilled two holes in the surface of the ledge, but Friday he decided to remove the earth, and the stones and if possible ascertain just how big they were before he blew them up. He dug a hole four feet deep and about three feet wide. The blade on his spade struck something—a tomato can, he thought. He bent over and picked the can out of the black earth. He saw that instead of a tomato can he was holding in his hands an iron pot, about seven inches long and shaped like a whiskey jug.

BROKE OPEN THE POT. The iron was so badly rusted that Charles found it easy to break. What he saw made him jump out of the hole and run to the house, which is only 300 yards away. He burst into the kitchen.

"Mother, see what I have found," he said, and he dumped the contents of the jug on the table. Several of the age-stained coins were silver, but the majority were copper pennies. They were green with the mould of years, and some of them were black. All told, there were forty-five pieces in the pile.

"Well, this is hard luck," muttered Charlie. "They are all cents. Some old silver must have buried them behind the stones a hundred years ago, and then gone and died. I thought I had found gold."

"Hold on," said the elder Kent. "I know something about old coins, and maybe these are valuable. Let's look at the dates."

Some of the dates were 1705, 1814, 1734, 1803, 1802, 1812, 1817, 1794, 1813, 1810, 1801, 1814 and 1807. One of the silver coins was a 10-cent piece.

THE NEIGHBORS EXCITED.

The elder Kent told his son to put the coins away and tell no one. The boy put the coins in a cotton bag, and then went down to the village to keep his secret. He managed to keep it to himself exactly one hour, and then he confided in the telegraph operator and the grocer's boy. Before night every man, woman and child in the place knew all about the discovery of the buried treasure, and as a result most of the neighbors called to get the story first hand.

Charles showed the coins and told his story to all the visitors, and by way of a finale, his father told the family history. He also told them how he had found a "Spanish quarter twenty-one years ago."

Young Kent has determined to dig over the meadow and see if he cannot find more money. The Kents propose to visit the city to-day and get a dealer to say what the coins are worth.

SAILORS BLEW OUT THE GAS. It Was in a Lodging House and One of Them Is Dead.

S. T. Hansen, a Norwegian sailor belonging to the steamship New York, met with death at an early hour yesterday morning as the penalty of having blown out the gas in his room in a lodging house at No. 105 South street. Two companions, also members of the crew of the New York, who shared an adjoining room, narrowly escaped a similar fate. These were Lars and Ole Larsen, cousins.

Lars Larsen had made several trips back and forth on the steamer, and was well known at the lodging house. His cousin and their friend Hansen arrived in this port for the first time on Saturday. Lars showed them about the town during the evening, and at 11 o'clock they turned up at the South street lodging house, and were assigned connecting rooms. Lars and his cousin Ole occupied one of the rooms together. The former was perfectly well aware that gas should not be extinguished in the same way that a candle is, but unfortunately he forgot to impart this knowledge to his friends, who were totally unfamiliar with gas illumination.

Lars being extremely tired and sleepy hurried to bed, and was asleep in a moment. His cousin was slower, and when at last ready to retire blew vigorously at the flickering gas flame. He was obliged to stand upon the bed in order to produce sufficient force of breath to extinguish it. Hansen, who had observed the proceedings through the open door, initiated it in his room when he came to retire.

At 5 o'clock yesterday morning Fred Wagner, the night watchman, smelled gas in the hallway. The doors of the sailors' rooms were forced open, and the men were found overcome by gas.

An ambulance was called from Gouverneur Hospital. Hansen died while the surgeon was examining him. The other two men were soon revived, and at once set out for No. 22 Hamilton avenue, Brooklyn, where Martin S. Jones, a friend, lived. Between the three enough money was raised to pay Hansen's funeral expenses, and the body was taken charge of by an undertaker.

BELMONT ATE PARIS GREEN. He Was a Painter Out of Work and Wouldn't Try Any Longer.

James Belmont, a painter, fifty-one years old, of No. 332 East Thirty-first street, took Paris green just before midnight on Saturday and died two hours later, half an hour after his admission to Bellevue Hospital.

Belmont had worked only eight days since October 15 last, and was sick and despondent.

His wife and daughter both work, and his married son helped him with money now and then. He told his wife on Friday that he would sooner be dead than living a burden on her, but she did not suspect that he intended to kill himself until he told her yesterday morning that he had taken a dose of the poison.



The Iron Jug and Some of the Old Coins Young Kent Found.

He was digging in his father's meadow, near Spring Valley, N. J., when he turned up a queer shaped vessel which he broke open. Therein were forty-five old coins, a few of them silver pieces, but the most of them old copper pennies. The dates were from 1734 to 1817.

A BIG BLAZE IN NEWARK.

John Zippel's Box Factory Burned to the Ground—The Watchman's Dog Perished in the Flames.

Newark, N. J., March 22.—All that remained of John Zippel's wood and paper box factory on South Seventh street, near Sixteenth avenue, to-day were a few charred timbers and a portion of the south end of the building.

A three-story frame building had been entirely consumed. The fire was discovered on the ground floor, between the office and packing room, this morning at about six o'clock. The fire was caused by a candle which had been left burning in the office.

The wind was blowing from the south-east, and carried the flames away from scores of frame dwellings adjoining the burning building. As it was, many of these buildings caught fire, but hundreds of volunteers on the roofs with buckets aided the firemen.

It is estimated that the loss of the building and machinery will amount to about \$15,000. Carl F. Seltz was the owner. Mr. Zippel loses about \$5,000 on stock and machinery. The cause of the fire is unknown. The insurance is very light.

SWINDLED THE DOMINIE.

A Smooth Stranger Finds Easy Victims in the Church and Leaves with Their Cash.

Lebanon, Ky., March 22.—A clever thief is now travelling through the State victimizing farmers and wealthy church members. The man, who is of commanding appearance, gave the name of W. B. Van Dyke.

A week ago he presented himself for admission at the Second Presbyterian Church, Rev. Dr. T. A. Brocken, who had come to Marion County from Arkansas, and would not have a farm near the church. He was a fluent conversationalist, and on Monday had the minister accompany him and recommend a suitable farm for him. He was engaged to look into the title. He got the minister to introduce him to several members of his congregation, and he spent the week with them.

Saturday he asked the minister for a loan of \$50 to buy a farm. The minister, who had just seen him deposit in the bank, could be cashed. Rev. Brocken, readily advanced the money. The stranger disappeared shortly afterward and his whereabouts are not known. The minister now admits that he has been made the victim of a bold swindle, and it turns out that two or three members of the congregation were caught for smaller amounts on the same scheme. Several other towns have been worked in a similar manner, and a detective has been employed by the rectors here to have him brought to justice.

TWO NOTED ENGLISH VOICES.

Davies the Tenor and Frangcon the Baritone on the Campana.

Benjamin Davies, said to be England's greatest tenor singer, arrived in New York Saturday on the Campana campaign. His first appearance in New York will be at the Metropolitan Opera House, next Saturday evening. After this he will make a tour of the principal cities under the management of C. A. Mills, of the Boston Symphony.

On the Campana will also be Frangcon, the famous baritone, who visits these shores for the first time. Under the management of Henry Wilson he will sing in the oratorio of "Elijah" in Montreal on March 31, and also in "Gounod's" "Redemption." In New York he will appear with the New York Philharmonic Society, and also with the Harmonic Society. Both singers will spend three days at the Cincinnati May Festival.

TAKEN OUT WITH A BOATHOOK.

Canalboat Captain Hutchinson Has a Narrow Escape from Drowning.

Andrew Hutchinson, captain of the canalboat M. A. Hanley, which is lying off pier No. 38, North River, entertained three friends on board Saturday night. He was returning to the boat after visiting them home, when he missed his footing and fell into the river.

Captain J. Kelly, of a neighboring canalboat, was awakened by the man's cries, and seeing him struggling in the water reached after him with a boathook. He caught Hutchinson by the collar, laying open his cheek with the prong of the hook, and hauled him aboard. He was sent to St. Vincent's Hospital.

M'MULLEN WANTED FOR TWO CRIMES.

Self-Confessed Diamond Thief Disposed of Stolen Postage Stamps.

He Acted with Allen, Killoran and Russell, Post Office Robbers, Who Escaped from Ludlow Jail.

IS ACCUSED BY CONVICT COLLIER.

An Inmate of Sing Sing Told the Warden of McMullen's Crimes—May Be Prosecuted by the Federal Authorities.

When most of the Yorkville Court at times had gone to lunch Friday, Magistrate Flannery called up the last case on the morning calendar, and disposed of it before an empty court room. The defendant was an individual in whom the police and the postal authorities are interested. He was Joseph McMullen, and he pleaded guilty.

The police had been looking for McMullen as a diamond thief since January 27, 1895. Since December of the same year the Secret Service Bureau had been endeavoring to apprehend him, for the purpose of asking where he got all those postage stamps which he had been selling to drug and cigar stores prior to that time. The police got him first, and have a confession of everything of interest to them.

The postal authorities will now have the opportunity of asking what, if anything, he knows about Allen, Killoran and Russell, the escaped Postoffice robbers, and whether he was acting as the distributor of their stolen stamps.

McMullen, two years ago, called on Rev. Dr. Greer, at St. Bartholomew's Mission, in East Forty-second street, frankly confessed that he was an ex-convict and said he was desirous of leading a better life.

The good Doctor offered him temporary employment as hall man at the mission, which position was gratefully accepted. The Doctor then exerted himself to secure employment for McMullen. Mrs. John Wolf, then of No. 27 West Forty-seventh street, now of Tuxedo, wife of a rich real estate broker, needed a butler and took McMullen on Dr. Greer's recommendation, aware of his self-confessed past. She was delighted with him from the start. Her confidence in him grew until she actually left the house in his charge when she had occasion to go away.

Such was the case on January 27, 1895. When Mrs. Wolf was gone he repaired to her apartments, gathered together her collection of sparkling diamonds, put on his hat and coat and took the first train for parts unknown.

Mrs. Wolf says the gems were worth \$5,000, but McMullen, who pawned them and should also know, insists in his confession that they were worth \$7,000.

SELLING HIS PLEDGERS. McMullen disposed of the diamonds in Jersey City, Newark and Boston. Then he went to Baltimore, Washington and San Francisco.

From each city as he left it he mailed the pawn tickets to Mrs. Wolf. When only one diamond remained he took the train back for New York.

In December last John Collier, a convict serving a term of five years in Sing Sing for highway robbery, told Warden Sage that he knew a man in whom the postal authorities would be interested, apropos of the robberies of Allen, Killoran and Russell. Collier said that Joseph McMullen, of No. 15 Second street, had offered him a chance to make \$100 a week selling postage stamps to drug stores.

Collier claimed that because of his refusal to enter into the scheme, McMullen "put up a job" on him and succeeded in having him sent up for a highway robbery in which he was not implicated.

After Collier's confession McMullen disappeared. Last Tuesday Patrolmen Thomas J. Hughes saw McMullen in the Herald Square Theatre and arrested him. McMullen's plea of guilty was entered Friday, and he was bound over in \$5,000 bail for trial in General Sessions.

Rev. Dr. Greer is taking a keen interest in the proceedings, and will lend what support he can toward securing McMullen's conviction.

THINKS HE WAS POISONED.

Leopold Mayer Suffering from a Strange Hallucination.

Leopold Mayer, a retired merchant, seventy-five years old, who lives with his son at No. 200 West Seventeenth street, was found wandering in the street near his home by Policeman Daggett yesterday morning.

Mayer informed the officer that he had been poisoned, and was walking about to get the poison out of his system. An ambulance was called and Mayer was sent to B. Lewis Hospital.

He has been in the habit recently of getting up during the night and visiting a physician near his home to ask for an antidote for poison.

Dudgeon was last seen viewing beautiful Lake Hopatcong. He was moving in the direction of Morrisania, and it is believed by the police he will reach Orange to-day, in which event they will arrest him.

CRIMES'S TRIAL FOR MURDER.

The Case Will Be Called This Morning at Richmond, Staten Island.

Richmond, S. I., March 22.—The trial of Thomas Grimes, indicted for murder, will be begun in the Supreme Court, before Justice Wilmet M. Smith at this place tomorrow morning. The trial will be an important one, and will occupy several days. It will be the first case prosecuted by George M. Pinney, Jr., since he entered the office of District Attorney of this county.

Thomas Grimes and his brother, Edward, were employed as electricians at the Mount Loretto Mission in January, and at midnight had a desperate fight in their bedroom at Solover's Hotel, Pleasant Plains, where the father of the two was terribly slashed with a pocket-knife, while Thomas had only a few scratches. Edward died twenty hours after the fight, and positively refused to make any statement.

It is believed the men quarrelled over Edward's wife, from whom he had separated. It is asserted that he did not know her whereabouts, and believed that Thomas was caring for her.

From Penury to Riches.

Muncie, Ind., March 22.—Will and George James, brothers, and poor men, received word yesterday that they are two of the four equal heirs of an estate of \$100,000 left by their grandfather, who died several days ago in Greenfield, Ohio. It was thought he was penniless, but a safe, which was not known to have been in the house, was discovered, and when opened money and papers valued altogether at \$100,000 were found.

Trying to Get Things Cheap.

In arresting Lou Henry and Theodore Hertrick, the police think they have a part of a gang that has for several months preyed upon grocers and small tradesmen. The men presented orders for goods to a small amount, and the orders were subsequently found to be forged. Both were held for trial.

EDISON PURSUED BY A TRAMP CRANK.

Burt Dudgeon, a Westerner, Claims the Wizard Steals His Ideas.

Has Written Several Letters from Far Away Towns Demanding That Money Be Sent Him.

FINALLY MAKES HIS WAY TO ORANGE.

Police Arrest Him and Let Him Go with a Warning—It Is Now Thought He Will Return and Officers Are Seeking Him.

Scouts were out among the Oranges of New Jersey yesterday looking out for Burt Dudgeon, a "Wandering Willie" from the far away plains of Nebraska.

Burt Dudgeon is the so-called tramp who walked from Edison, Neb., to Llewellyn Park, West Orange, N. J., to pay his respects to Thomas A. Edison.

Heard of a year ago, when he started to write frequent letters to the great inventor. They were all dated either Arapahoe or Edison, Neb., and demanded the remittance of money in each instance.

Time flew by and Burt Dudgeon was almost forgotten at the Edison laboratory, until the second week of this month he was again heard from through the following letter:

Edison, Orange, N. J.
Dear Sir: Send me a ticket or money from Edison, Neb., to New York City, or from Edison to Orange. Also money to pay hotel bills. Respectfully,
BURT DUDGEON.

DREW ON MR. EDISON. This letter was thrown away, like the previous ones had been, but it recalled to Treasurer John F. Randolph, of the Edison Company, that Dudgeon had sent on a draft for \$100 in October last, from Arapahoe through a bank of that city. In due time this draft was presented for payment by an Orange correspondent, and, of course, returned.

Dudgeon was not heard from again until last Tuesday, when he astonished the employees at the Orange laboratory by appearing in person.

Dudgeon wore an old soft hat, a long black coat, which was tattered and torn, and one gaiter and one lace shoe. He had on no shirt, and long, shaggy hair and beard suggested that he had cut the quantity of razor and shears many months before.

When Mr. Randolph told Dudgeon he could not see Mr. Edison the visitor said: "Oh, yes; I can. Just show him this piece of paper."

Randolph recognized the \$100 draft of last October, and said: "Just wait a few minutes, please." He went upstairs and soon returned, telling Dudgeon he was very sorry, but Mr. Edison had gone to his mine at Edison or Ogden, N. J., and could not be seen until 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

Promptly at 3 o'clock Dudgeon was back again and was taken in charge by a policeman who had been provided by Captain Bamford, Chief of Police of West Orange.

TALKED LIKE AN INSANE MAN. When Dudgeon was taken before Chief Bamford he talked rationally about everything except Mr. Edison, whom he accused of having used his ideas in perfecting the composition of carbon necessary in electric lighting. He talked like an educated man, and said his brother and father practice law in Nebraska, and he had worked as a copyist in their office at Arapahoe.

Chief Bamford told him Mr. Edison is a very humane man who would wrong no one, and that he was certainly mistaken. "If you don't go away at once," the Chief said, "I will look you up and you will have to crack stone on our planks for six months."

Dudgeon said he had walked on hard rocks long enough, and would go away rather than sit down on them in bad weather. Chief Bamford took the draft away and Dudgeon left.

Dudgeon was not seen at Orange again, but on Saturday appeared at Ogden, or, as it is now known, Edison, New Jersey. This is where Mr. Edison's iron mine is located. As it so happened Treasurer Randolph was there Saturday paying the workmen. He told Superintendent Connolly who of the New Jersey and Pennsylvania, directed that he be got rid of at once. Dudgeon was very tractable, and when informed Mr. Edison was not at the mine seemed disappointed. He said:

"Well, I only want my rights, and I knew Edison was the man who would give them to me. Thank you, gentlemen, I walked up this hill and I guess I can walk down again. Good-by; I am off for Lynn, Massachusetts."

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A VERY BUSY WEEK AT ALBANY.

Important Legislation Will Receive Legislators' Attention This Week.

Though the Session Will Be but Half Its Usual Length, Much Is to Be Done.

EARLY ADJOURNMENT NOW ASSURED.

The Feature of the Week Will Probably Be the Greater New York Bill in the Assembly and the School Bills in the Senate.

Albany, N. Y., March 22.—Some important legislation will receive attention at the hands of the Legislature this week, even though but half of the usual sessions are to be held on account of the meeting of the Republican State Convention on Tuesday. Nearly all of the members went to New York on Friday, and will return Wednesday in time to attend the session in each house which convenes at 1 o'clock Wednesday afternoon. A special train will be run by the New York Central on Wednesday, leaving New York City at 8:45 and reaching here about noon, for the accommodation of the legislators.

The feature of the week will be the Lexow Greater New York bill in the Assembly, where it is a special order on final passage on Thursday, and the Cities' Committee's substitute for the Page and the Pavay New York school bills in the Senate. The Republican leaders say that both measures will be passed.

The New York School Bill has been reported favorably from the Senate Committee on Cities, with Senators Ahearn, Grady and McCarren, the Democratic members of the committee, dissenting. Senator Stranahan says that the bill will be advanced toward final passage if not passed in the Senate this week. The friends of the measure say that they expect to carry it only from the Democrats, who, it is said, will attack the social influences which caused the incorporation of the city of New York to abolish the system of ward trustees.

Although the Miner Good Roads bills, in charge of Senator Higbie, were introduced in the Senate last week by the expiration of twenty-eight counties from the operation of the bills, Senator Higbie is still working hard to obtain favorable action on the bills, as they were first presented on April 22, or within the week of the session. The bills are now in the Senate Finance Committee. The bills will be passed on an early day, while the Supply bill will be held back until the last week of the session. It is generally conceded that the Legislature will adjourn on April 22, or within the week.

From the drift of the questions asked Police Commissioner Roosevelt by various members of the Cities' Committee, it is believed that the Mayor's New York City Police Reorganization bill, which is similar to the Lexow bill of last year, will be killed in committee.

NOT APPARENT THIS YEAR. Senator Stranahan, chairman of the Senate Cities Committee, says that Commissioner Roosevelt admitted that the necessity which existed last year for clothing the Police Commissioners with absolute power of appointment and removal of police officers, which was the subject of the bill introduced at the session of the Legislature last year, which has been sent back to the Senate Committee on Public Education, at the request of one of the members of the committee will be reported back to the Senate during the week, and Senator Mailly says he will press its advancement and passage.

The Senate Judiciary Committee will give a number of hearings on Thursday afternoon. Among the important bills to be considered are the Cities' Committee amendments, Mechanic Lien law amendments, the Court of Appeals Relief bill, and the amendments to the Civil Service law.

The Anti-Coal Trust bills, prepared by the Attorney-General, are on the order of reading in the Senate, with an agreement, however, that if a hearing is asked for in good faith by any interested parties

the bills are to go back to the Senate Judiciary Committee. One of the bills has been introduced in the Senate Committee and will have to be returned to the Assembly for that body's concurrence in the Senate amendments.

The Senate Finance Committee will give a hearing on Senator Mailly's Railroad Mileage Book bill. Senator Ford's bill amending the New York Tenement House law will be before the Senate Cities Committee on Thursday afternoon for a hearing. The New York Dock Improvement bills will have a hearing on that day also.

The Assembly Judiciary Committee has completed its list of hearings, and will this week act finally on the Coroner's bill, and Assemblyman Sanger's bill reorganizing the administration of civil service. The New York Dock Improvement bills will receive favorable consideration at the hands of the Assembly Cities Committee this week. Before the General Laws Committee of the Assembly, Assemblyman Horton's bill prohibiting officers of the National Guard from holding responsible positions in savings banks will have a hearing on Wednesday afternoon.

The public leaders do not anticipate that the Bondy bill, which provides for an ale and beer license at half the regular rate, will be passed.

DOESN'T KNOW WHO HIT HIM.

John Hargadon in the Hudson Street Hospital, and Badly Hurt.

John Hargadon, a printer, thirty-seven years old, of No. 15 Bowers, walked into the Hudson Street Hospital in an intoxicated condition, last evening, and said that he had been assaulted, but where and by whom he was unable to tell.

He had a wound over the left eye, which was badly swollen, and it was found that his skull was fractured from a blow on the back of the head.

Surgeon Johnson said that the man may be seriously injured.

Senator Tibbitts' bill creating a "Greater Troy" will have a joint hearing on Wednesday afternoon before the Senate and Assembly Committees on Cities. The Senate Railroad Committee will on Wednesday give a hearing on Senator Mailly's Railroad Mileage Book bill. Senator Ford's bill amending the New York Tenement House law will be before the Senate Cities Committee on Thursday afternoon for a hearing. The New York Dock Improvement bills will have a hearing on that day also.

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